

RESOLUTION NO. 14 -09

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF THE RATIFICATION BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, in 1923, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) was written by Alice Paul, a woman suffrage leader and lawyer, and first introduced into Congress, and it states “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex”; and,

WHEREAS, from 1923 to 1971, the ERA was introduced into every session of Congress but never passed; and,

WHEREAS, in 1972, the ERA was passed by a two-thirds vote in the Senate and the House of Representatives, and was sent to the states on March 22 with a seven-year deadline for ratification; and,

WHEREAS, from 1972 to 1977, the ERA was approved by 35 state legislatures, with only three more state ratifications needed to put it into the Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, from 1978 to 2013, the Congress passed a bill extending the ratification deadline to June 30, 1982, and the ERA has subsequently been introduced into every session of Congress since 1982; and,

WHEREAS, in 2013, both the Florida House and Senate filed concurrent resolution bills, HCR8001 and SCR54, respectively, to ratify the ERA; and,

WHEREAS, in 2013, both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate filed joint resolution bills, HJRES43 and SJRES15, respectively, removing the deadline for the ratification of the ERA; and,

WHEREAS, the first – and still the only – right that the U.S. Constitution specifically affirms to be equal for women and men is the right to vote (19th amendment, 1920); that the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause has never been interpreted to protect against sex discrimination in the same way that the ERA would; that without the ERA, women and occasionally men still have to fight long, expensive, and difficult political and legal battles for equal rights under the law; and,

WHEREAS, American women of every race, culture, class, ethnic and socioeconomic background are investing time, resources and intellectual support toward the advancement of the City of Doral in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements, especially the peace movement, which create a more fair and just society for all; and,

WHEREAS, despite these contributions, the rights of American women have been consistently overlooked, undervalued, and unequal to men, in wages, educational, career and business opportunities, human and civil rights:

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to support the ratification of the ERA by the Florida Legislature and Congress.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Mayor and the City Council hereby support the ratification of the ERA by the Florida Legislature and Congress, in perpetuity.

Section 2. The City Manager is authorized and directed to communicate this resolution to the Florida Legislature and Congress, and to help educate the public and community as to its significance with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Councilmember Ruiz who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez Aguilera and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Luigi Boria	Yes
Vice Mayor Christi Fraga	Yes
Councilwoman Ana Maria Rodriguez	Yes
Councilwoman Bettina Rodriguez Aguilera	Yes
Councilwoman Sandra Ruiz	Yes

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of January, 2014



LUIGI BORIA, MAYOR

ATTEST:



BARBARA HERRERA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR
THE SOLE USE OF THE CITY OF DORAL:



JOHN R. HERIN, JR., CITY ATTORNEY